Claims

Please add new claim 18 as set forth in the following listing of claims:

1. (previously presented) A process for a catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines, in which fuel and a part-stream of the exhaust gas or of an intake air are converted in a converter, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas or of the intake air are fed separately from one another into the converter and the fuel is vaporized in the converter, wherein the fuel is at least partially oxidized to carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.

2. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the fuel is dehydrated or partially oxidized.

3. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the fuel is at least partially oxidized to carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.

4. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas or of an intake air, which have been converted in the converter, are combined with the exhaust gas of the internal combustion engine and are reacted over a catalyst in order to remove oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines by their degradation.

5. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reaction for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is carried out over the catalyst whose active material contains no Cr, Mn, Fe, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ir, Pt or Cu.

6. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains at least one oxide of a metal of the first to fourth main group of the Periodic Table of the Elements.

7. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains γ-Al_2O_3.

8. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the product stream obtained after the reaction over the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is further reacted over a noble metal-containing catalyst for an oxidation of the remaining organic compounds.

9. (previously presented) A converter for a catalytic conversion of fuel, comprising a vaporization space and a conversion space the vaporization space being located within the conversion space, the vaporization space having separate feeds for exhaust gas or intake air and liquid fuel, the conversion space having a catalyst for the catalytic conversion of liquid fuel by the partial oxidation thereof, and the vaporization space and the conversion space being connected to one another so that heat transport from the conversion space into the vaporization space is possible to vaporize the liquid fuel with the aid of the heat of reaction of the partial oxidation, wherein the catalyst is used in the form of a honeycomb.

10. (previously presented) A process for a catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines by reducing oxides of nitrogen with carboxylic acids and/or anhydrides, which are oxidation products of the fuel, in which fuel and a part-stream of the exhaust gas are converted in a converter, wherein the liquid fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas are fed separately from one another into the converter and the liquid fuel is vaporized in the converter.

11. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas, which have been converted in the converter, are combined with the exhaust gas of the internal combustion engine and are reacted over a catalyst in order to remove oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of

internal combustion engines by their degradation.

12. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the reaction for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is carried out over the catalyst whose active material contains no Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ir, Pt or Cu.

13. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains at least one oxide of a metal of the first to fourth main group of the Periodic Table of the Elements.

14. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains γ-Al_2O_3.

15. (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the product stream obtained after the reaction over the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is further reacted over a noble metal-containing catalyst for an oxidation of the remaining organic compounds.

16. (previously presented) A converter for a catalytic conversion of liquid fuel, comprising an evaporator pipe, which consists of a cylindrical recess for fuel and is situated in the interior of the catalytic converter for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines and a feed for a partial gas stream of exhaust gas and/or intake air, introduced in parallel whereby the converter is designed as a honeycomb element.

17. (previously presented) A converter for the catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines comprising

    1) an evaporator pipe which consists of a cylindrical recess in the interior of the catalytic converter for the partial oxidation of liquid fuel,

2) a liquid fuel feed and an exhaust gas feed separately connected to the cylindrical recess, and

3) the heat reaction of the partial oxidation of the liquid fuel in the catalytic converter being transported to the cylindrical recess, the converter being designed as a honeycomb element,

said process resulting in a homogeneous distribution of fuel in the exhaust gas during the partial oxidation

18. (new) The converter of claim 16, wherein the feed for a partial gas stream of exhaust gas and/or intake air are introduced on the same side of the converter.